

Statistic: Household Employment Survey (seasonally-adjusted)

Analysis:

Employed lowans (the number of lowans reporting that they currently have a job) increased in January, the first increase since August 2016. At 1,637,600, Iowa employment is just below the all-time high established in February 2016. At 1,694,200, the number of lowans in the labor force (includes those employed plus those unemployed and looking for work) increased slightly compared to last month. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate retreated to 3.3% from 3.5%.

At the low point of the last U.S. recession, Iowa's unemployment rate peaked at 6.6% (May through August 2009). The unemployment rate has declined steadily since that time. The Iowa unemployment rate has not been this low (3.3%) and declining since 1997. The number of unemployed lowans totaled 56,600 for January. This level is 7,900 below the level one year ago.

Additional information can be found on the Legislative Services Agency's Economic Trends webpage at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/fiscal/economicTrends>. The webpage includes links to source sites and the underlying data for each Economic Trends indicator.

STAFF CONTACT: Jeff Robinson (515)281-4614 jeff.robinson@legis.iowa.gov

